UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.5/50/29
16 November 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fiftieth session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 121

UNITED NATIONS COMMON SYSTEM

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit herewith, for consideration by the General Assembly, a statement adopted by the Administrative Committee on Coordination at its second regular session of 1995.

95-15795 (E) 161195 171195

/...

ANNEX

Statement by the Administrative Committee on Coordination

The Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) is gravely concerned by the increase in attacks on the staff of the United Nations, its programmes, funds and specialized agencies which, over the past three years alone, have led to the death of over 100 staff members working in humanitarian emergencies and development activities.

ACC notes that the personnel of the United Nations, its programmes, funds and specialized agencies are increasingly called upon to work in high risk, insecure situations, and calls for the adoption of effective and comprehensive measures to enhance the security of personnel.

To this end, ACC calls upon all Governments to take all possible measures to ensure the safety of United Nations staff. In this respect, ACC welcomes the commitment made by the Security Council on 26 September 1995, in connection with the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations, to continue to attach the utmost importance to the issue of staff security (see S/PRST/1995/48).

ACC also welcomes the adoption by the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel (resolution 49/59 of 9 December 1994), and encourages those Governments which have not yet done so to ratify the Convention. ACC regrets that the drafters of the Convention were not able to take into account the observations made by ACC in a previous statement regarding the limited application of the Convention. ACC therefore trusts that the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat will study the Convention with a view to proposing measures that would ensure the extension of its coverage automatically and equally to all United Nations and associated staff working in unsafe or potentially insecure situations.

ACC notes the progress that has been made in coordination with the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator by the United Nations, its programmes, funds and specialized agencies, on measures such as the development of security training, stress management and communications systems which can reduce the risk to which personnel are exposed. ACC encourages its members to prioritize such measures and, where possible, to share and combine resources and experience in this area.

ACC, while deeply concerned by the financial crisis affecting the United Nations, insists that projects relating to the safety and security of staff be excluded from any budgetary restrictions resulting from the crisis.

ACC requests its Chairman to bring this matter to the attention of Member States, and decides to review progress on these recommendations at its next session.